



**Lori E. Lightfoot**  
Mayor

**Department of Police • City of Chicago**  
3510 S. Michigan Avenue • Chicago, Illinois 60653

**Eddie T. Johnson**  
Superintendent of Police

August 8, 2019

**Via Email:**

Matt Chapman

MuckRock

[77766-74207944@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:77766-74207944@requests.muckrock.com)

**RE: NOTICE OF RESPONSE TO FOIA REQUEST**  
**FOIA FILE NO.: P511193**

Dear Matt Chapman:

The Chicago Police Department (CPD) is in receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, received August 1, 2019 for the following:

*"A copy of all records that would appear on a "Complaint for Search" sent to the Felony Review Unit.*

*A copy of all records that would appear on a "Complaint for Search" sent to the Narcotics Prosecution Bureau.*

*Search warrant information has been requested in the past by Lucy Parsons Labs in the past [1] and has most notably been found in the CLEAR database. I kindly ask that your agency expand the search beyond CLEAR, wherever relevant.*

*As the statute allows, please provide me with an excel spreadsheet of these records. As the records are going through two separate departments, please provide two separate excel spreadsheets."*

Your request was reviewed by the undersigned in collaboration with the Department's Data Fulfillment and Analysis Section of the Strategic Data Analytics Division. It was determined that your request is denied.

Please be advised, CPD has no automated mechanism by which to query for Complaint for Search records sent to the Felony Review Unit and/or Narcotics Prosecution Bureau. CPD does not track this information. In order to compile all responsive records, CPD would need to conduct an extensive amount of research that would require the manual review of all Complaint for Search documents to determine whether or not these records were forwarded to the Felony Review Unit or Narcotics Prosecution Bureau. Once this was determined, CPD would have to compile these records as a result of this research. Given the number of Complaint for Search records that could have been sent to the Felony Review Unit

and Narcotics Prosecution Bureau during the undefined time frame in question, this task represents an unduly burdensome action upon the operations of this Department.

Moreover, please note that FOIA does not require the public body to create new records, conduct research, analyze data, interpret, answer questions or advise requesters as to the meaning or significance of public records. The Court, in *Kenyon v. Garrels*, 184 ILL. App. 3rd 28, 32(4th Dist. 1989), noted that FOIA does not compel the agency to provide answers to questions posed by the inquirer.

At this time your request as currently written is unduly burdensome. Pursuant to Section 3(g) of FOIA, we would like to extend to you an opportunity to modify your request to make it more manageable. Unless and until a new FOIA request is submitted that specifies what records you are seeking, CPD will be unable to process your petition. CPD encourages you to review your request to ascertain the details of your query. If there is a particular search warrant in which you are interested, it may be possible to conduct a search based on these parameters. Once this is determined, a new FOIA request can be submitted to CPD, specifying the records you would like CPD to provide.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at the following address:

Chicago Police Department  
Attention: Freedom of Information  
Office of Legal Affairs, Unit 114  
3510 S. Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60653  
[foia@chicagopolice.org](mailto:foia@chicagopolice.org)

You have a right of review by the Illinois Attorney General's Public Access Counselor, who can be contacted at 500 S. Second St., Springfield, IL 62706 or by telephone at 877-299-3642. You may also seek judicial review under 5 ILCS 140/11.

Sincerely,

A. Marlan  
Freedom of Information Act Officer  
Chicago Police Department  
Office of Legal Affairs, Unit 114  
3510 S. Michigan Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60653